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DIRECTORATE OF  
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25X1

# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

## CONTENTS

25X1

MALTA: Bilateral aid talks with NATO countries  
(Page 3)

25X1

25X1

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Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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NOTES

MALTA: Further details regarding possible bilateral assistance from a number of NATO countries have been added to the UK-NATO cash and aid package offer of almost \$24 million annually. The latest British communication to Prime Minister Mintoff states that West Germany, Italy, Canada, and Norway are prepared to enter bilateral discussions with Malta and that other allied governments are still considering the matter. Mintoff reportedly hopes for some \$14 million in bilateral aid from NATO countries apparently because he realizes that the UK-NATO offer is unlikely to go any higher. Mintoff recently commented to the German ambassador in Valletta that he is willing to "negotiate bilaterally for up to six months," a considerably longer time than he has been prepared to allow for an acceptable UK-NATO package.

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25X1

15 Sep 71

Central Intelligence Bulletin

3

25X1

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